CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

COUNTY COUNCIL 30th April 2014

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SUBJECT: Transition to Individual Registration

REPORT FOR: Information

Under the current system of electoral registration an annual household canvass form is sent to every property in the Council each autumn, which is completed by one individual on behalf of everyone living at the property. People are also added to or deleted from the electoral register throughout the year through a process of rolling registration, a form which has to be signed individually.

From June 2014 this system of registration will be replaced by one of Individual Electoral Registration (IER), with individuals making an application to register individually and providing personal identifiers (such as date of birth and National Insurance Number).

The transition from the current household registration system to IER is the most significant change to our system of electoral registration for many years and will involve almost everybody in the country. The changes aim to modernise and improve our electoral registration process, creating one which has better protection against electoral fraud and more convenience for citizens to register with the introduction of online registration process.

The process of transition will begin with 'confirmation live run', where the electoral register will be matched against data held by DWP and locally held datasets to confirm as many existing entries on the electoral register as possible, without requiring individuals to provide these personal identifiers.

Anyone on the register who has not been matched, will be sent an 'Invitation to Register' asking for the new identifying information. A Household Enquiry Form will also be sent to any address where no one is registered and where current electors were carried forward onto the register published on 10 March 2014.

Anyone that fails to renew their registration under the new system will be carried forward until December 2015, after this point these electors will be removed. However, if an elector is registered for a postal or proxy vote, they must register under the new IER system by December 2014 or automatically lose the right to use this method of absent voting.

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Background Papers used to prepare Report: